(b) if so, by when it is expected to provide support?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) There has been no appreciation in Indian rupee against US dollar during the period 2008-09 over 2007-08. In order to boost exports, arrest the impact of economic slow down and to improve liquidity, Government had announced two stimulus packages on 7th December, 2008 and 2nd January, 2009 to the domestic industry including textiles industry which *inter-alia*, provide for the following:-

i) Additional allocation of Rs.1400 crore to clear the backlog of Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) (farther allocation of Rs.3140 crore in the Budget 2009-10 has been announced);

ii) All items of handicrafts included under 'Vishesh Krishi & Gram Udyog Yojana (VK&GUY)';

iii) Across-the-board cut of 4% in the ad-valorem Cenvat rate till 31.3.2009;

iv) Interest subvention of 2% upto 31.3.2009 subject to a minimum of 7% per annum on pre and post-shipment export credit (since extended to 31.3.2010 in the Union Budget 2009-10);

v) Provision of additional funds for full refund of Terminal Excise Duty/Central Sales Tax.

vi) Enhanced back-up guarantee to ECGC to cover for exports to difficult markets/products;

vii) Refund of Service Tax on foreign agent commissions of upto 10% of FOB value of exports as well as refund of service tax on output service while availing benefits under Duty Drawback Scheme;

viii) Credit targets of Public Sector Banks revised upward to reflect the needs of the economy;

ix) State Level Bankers Committee to hold meetings for resolution of Credit issues of MSMEs;

x) Guarantee cover under Credit Guarantee Scheme doubled to Rs. 1 crore with cover of 50%;

xi) DEPB rates restored to pre November, 2008 levels and extended till 31.12.2009;

xii) Duty Drawback on knitted fabrics enhanced retrospectively from 1.9.2008.

Steps to revive Sick Textile Units

1321. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that many Government and private textile units have become sick;

(b) the total number of sick units, State-wise; and

(c) the steps initiated by Government to revive the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Government seeks to foster a policy regime, which facilitates growth and development of Indian industry. It has taken a number of steps to revive sick industrial units which, *inter-alia,* include guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to banks, amalgamation of sick units with healthy units, setting up of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the Sick Industrial Companies (Social Provisions) Act etc. For restructuring of high cost debts of textiles units, in the organized sector, Ministry of Finance in Banking Division, in September 2003 introduced a Debt Restructuring Package to help textiles units overcome their unsustainable debt burden.

A list of Government and private sick mills, State-wise is given in the Statement.

Statement

Number of Government and private sick mills, State-wise

S.No.	State	Private mills	NTC mills
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	53	6
2	Assam	5	1
3	Bihar	2	2
4	Chandigarh	1	-
5	Dadra Nagar Haveli	5	-
6	Daman & Diu	1	-
7	Delhi	46	-
8	Goa	1	-
9	Gujarat	122	11
10	Haryana	26	-
11	Himachal Pradesh	1	-
12	Jharkhand	1	-
13	Karnataka	43	4
14	Kerala	14	5
15	Madhya Pradesh	31	6
16	Maharashtra	167	35
17	Orissa	6	1
18	Pondicherry	1	1
19	Punjab	38	4

1	2	3	4
20	Rajasthan	45	4
21	Tamil Nadu	176	13
22	Uttar Pradesh	40	11
23	Uttaranchal	5	-
24	West Bengal	38	12
25	Chhattisgarh	-	1
	TOTAL :	868	117

Protecting interests of handloom workers in U.P.

1322. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what has been done by Government during the last three years to protect the interests of handloom workers of Uttar Pradesh and the details of schemes launched;

(b) what has been done by Government for the education of children of weavers living in very poor conditions;

(c) what Government proposes to do to provide better market access and raw material to handloom workers and remove the menace of middlemen; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The Government of India is implementing the following schemes during the XI Five Year Plan to promote the Handloom Sector in all over the country including Uttar Pradesh State:-

(i) Integrated Handlooms Development Scheme

(ii) Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme

(iii) Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme

(iv) Mill Gate Price Scheme

(v) Diversified Handloom Development Scheme

The developmental and welfare schemes being implemented by the Government of India are comprehensive in nature and cover the interest of handloom weavers of the entire country including Uttar Pradesh. In the 11th Plan, out of the two mega clusters sanctioned with an outlay of Rs 70.00 crores each, one of them is Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh, the other being Sibsagar in Assam. Also, as a special measure for the welfare of handloom weavers, Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme is being implemented with components of (i) Health Insurance Scheme and (ii) Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana which provide medical facilities and life insurance cover for the weavers in the country including state of Uttar Pradesh.